

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application and in response to the Official Action of April 3, 2008.

Record is also made of a telephone interview between applicant's representative and the Examiner which took place on June 10, 2008. The Examiner is thanked for his help and assistance as well as for the courtesies extended to Counsel at that time. During the course of the interview, the present application was discussed on the basis of proposed changes to claim 1, as faxed to the Examiner ahead of the interview. The Examiner agreed that the subject matter of the present invention appears to be distinguishable over the applied prior art of record; however, an updated search is needed to make a final determination about patentability of independent claim 1 and independent claim 23.

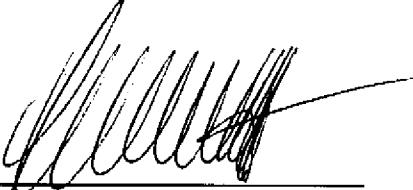
As a result of the interview, applicant now submits amendments to claims 1 and 23 which are drawn up in accordance with the agreement at the interview so as to overcome the rejection to the claims as set forth in the Examiner's Official Action of April 3, 2008.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is considered patentably differentiated over the prior art of record and believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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